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**THE IMPACT OF LOCAL LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS  
ON THE DEMAND FOR EDUCATION:**

**EVIDENCE FROM INDIAN CASINOS**

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## Abstract

Using restricted-use data from the 1990 and 2000 Census long-form, we analyze the impact of local labor market conditions on the demand for education using the economic shock produced by the opening of a new casino on an Indian reservation as the identifying event. Federal legislation in 1988 allowed Indian tribes to open casinos in many states and since then, over 400 casinos have opened, 240 of which have Las Vegas-style games. We demonstrate that the opening of a casino increased the employment and wages of low-skilled workers. Young adults responded by dropping out of high school and reducing college enrollment rates, even though many tribes have generous college tuition subsidy programs

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## **I. Introduction**

Although tuition is a large cost of attending college, foregone earnings are, for most students, the largest direct expense associated with attending college. The College Board estimates that in the 2003/4 academic year, annual tuition and fees at four-year institutions averaged \$4,650 at public schools and \$18,950 at private schools.<sup>1</sup> In contrast, full-time/full-year workers with a high school degree aged 18-21 had labor earnings of \$18,144 in 2003.<sup>2</sup> Simple models of human capital accumulation predict that rising opportunity costs for high school graduates should, all else equal, reduce college enrollment rates. This prediction has been tested by dozens of authors using a variety of techniques. Because new entrants to the labor market tend to work in the same geographic area where they went to high school, most of these tests have focused on the impact of local labor market condition on college enrollment decision. Given the size of foregone earnings associated with college attendance, it may be surprising to some that the results of these analyses are somewhat mixed, with few studies finding a large impact of local labor market conditions on educational attainment.

This paper analyzes the impact of local labor market conditions on the demand for education using the rise in American Indian casinos as an identifying shock to local economies. A series of Supreme Court cases and Federal legislation in the mid to late 1980s gave Indian tribes in certain states the ability to open Las Vegas-style casinos. Since that time, over 400 Indian casinos have opened, 240 of which offer Las Vegas-style games. Indian casinos generated net revenues of \$16.3 billion in 2003.<sup>3</sup> Today, over half of tribal members in the lower 48 states now belong to tribes that operate a casino (Evans and Topoleski, 2002). As we demonstrate below, these casinos have had tremendous impact on the local economy, lowering

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.collegeboard.com/press/article/0,,38993,00.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Authors' calculations based on data from the March 2003, Current Population Survey.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.nigc.gov/nigc/documents/biennial\\_reports/nigc\\_2004\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.nigc.gov/nigc/documents/biennial_reports/nigc_2004_annual_report.pdf).

unemployment rates and rising wages, especially for low-skilled workers. The rise of casino gaming and its impact on the local economy are a nice laboratory in which we can examine the link between local economic conditions educational attainment.

The rise in casino gaming may exert both positive and negative forces on educational attainment of young adults. Evans and Topoleski (2002) showed that casinos reduced unemployment and increased family incomes, especially among Indians on reservations. Family income is a strong predictor of education attainment (Manski and Wise, 1983; Carneiro and Heckman, 2002) so the better financial standing of Indian families after a casino opened may increase schooling of their children. Second, anecdotal evidence from a number of tribes indicates that profits from casinos are used to improve education for tribal members such as improving the quality of K-12 education or providing tuition subsidies for post-secondary education.<sup>4</sup> In contrast, improvements in the labor market opportunities for low-skilled workers may increase the opportunity costs of education and therefore, discourage young adults from furthering their education.

The data for this paper comes from restricted-use versions of the 1990 and 2000 Census long-form data sets. The long-form instrument is sent to one in six households and it contains detailed data on demographic characteristics, educational attainment, and employment for all household members. The restricted-use data we utilize contains detailed geo-codes that identify

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<sup>4</sup> The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act requires that tribes file a Resource Allocation Plan (RAP). According to the law, tribes can use the profits from casinos for one of five purposes: 1) to fund tribal government operations, 2) provide for the general welfare of tribal members, 3) promote tribal economic development, 4) donate to charitable organizations, or 5) help fund operations of local government agencies. RAPs are not publicly available and by law, not subject to Freedom of Information Act requests. A check of tribal government web pages indicates that many tribes use casino profits to heavily subsidize various education programs such as efforts to improve K-12 education or college tuition subsidies. Tribes that run large casinos such as those run by the Pequots, the Seminoles, the Ho Chunk, the Oneidas of Wisconsin, and the Milles Lacs all provide generous tuition subsidies for college and vocational training. However, even tribes with smaller casino operations such as those run by the Gila River Community, the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa, the Oneidas of New York, the Eastern Cherokee and Coquille Indian Tribe, all provide some college tuition assistance funded out of casino profits.

whether households are located on particular reservations. We supplement this data with information about when and where tribes opened casinos on reservations.

There are at least four reasons the rise of Indian gaming provides an excellent opportunity to examine the link between the local economy and educational attainment. First, casinos are permanent shocks to the local community, so unlike many previous studies, we are measuring permanent rather than transitory effects.<sup>5</sup> Second, although there are a few large-scale, high-profile Indian casinos in metropolitan areas, the vast majority of Indian reservations and their casinos are in rural areas, making the definition of local labor markets easier to construct.<sup>6</sup> Third, a number of tribes are prohibited by state law from opening a casino and some tribes choose NOT to open a casino, providing plausible comparison groups. Fourth, as we illustrate below, the benefits of casinos appear to be concentrated in lower-skilled jobs and Indians appear to be the primary beneficiaries, providing necessary variation by which we can identify models.

There is also substantive interest in the basic question about the social and economic benefits of the rise in American Indian casinos. Historically, people living on Indian reservations are among the poorest and least educated groups in the U.S. According to data from the 1990 Census, reservation residents had over twice the poverty rate, 38 percent lower median household income, and unemployment rate that was 2.75 times the national average. Adults aged 25 and older living on reservations had a 34 percent higher high school dropout rate and a 58 percent lower college graduation rate than national averages. Subsequently, the impact of local labor market conditions on their educational attainment levels might be instructive for other interventions aimed at populations with a large fraction of low-skilled workers.

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<sup>5</sup> From what we can determine, only two of the more than 300 Indian casinos that have opened have been closed due to lack of business.

<sup>6</sup> Evans and Topeleski (2002) show that the median tribe with a casino has about 800 members and only 1 million people living within 100 miles of the casino.

In the first part of the results section, we demonstrate that the rise of casino gaming lead to larger gains in employment and wages among high school dropouts and high school graduates than for college-educated workers. The increase in employment was primarily in service sector jobs and mostly in entertainment industry sub-sectors. We find that the rise of casino gaming lead to a large reduction in both the fraction of young adults staying in high school and entering college. These results are even more startling when we consider that many tribes with casinos also instituted tuition programs to help pay for some college education.

The paper proceeds as follows. In section II, we review the literature linking local labor market outcomes and college enrollment. In section III, we outline the court decisions and legislation that lead to the rise of Indian casinos. In section IV, we outline the restricted-use data employed in this analysis and in section V, we discuss the econometric model. In section VI we present the results and in section VII, we make some concluding remarks.

## **II. Related Literature**

A number of authors from the fields of economics, sociology, education, and demography, have examined the social and economic forces that alter the demand for education. The decision to continue with formal education is affected by a number of factors including the direct costs of education (e.g., tuition and fees, the generosity of financial aid), indirect costs such as foregone earnings, the expected returns from education, the psychic costs/benefits of education, plus a variety of other factors such as parents' socioeconomic background. In this study, we are interested in how local labor market conditions impact high school graduation and college entrance rates. The predictions of human capital theory in this case are not clear. If high school students perceive better job prospects as rising returns to skill, young adults might

increase enrollment rates. But, a robust local labor market for low-skilled workers may increase the opportunity cost of attending schools, thereby enticing young adults out of school and into the labor market. The net effect of local labor market conditions will therefore depend on the strength of these two countervailing effects.

A number of authors have examined the correlation between local unemployment and wages and educational attainment. That bulk of the estimates in this group of studies come from models that address different issues but have, as one set of controls, characteristics of the local labor market. For example, Manski and Wise (1983) used data from the National Longitudinal Study of the High School Class of 1972 to estimate discrete choice models of college entrance and college completion. A major focus of their work was the impact of family background characteristics and tuition on enrollment decisions, but they did control for local labor market conditions such as the manufacturing wage and local unemployment rate. Their results “weakly support the presumption that there is some interaction between local labor market opportunities and the continuation of schooling...” (p. 69).

The weak link between local labor market conditions and educational attainment has been found by others. Card and Lemieux (2000) used data on high school and college enrollment from the School Enrollment Supplements to the October Current Population Survey and data from the 1960-1990 Decennial Censuses to examine the determinants of rising educational attainment throughout the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The authors found weak evidence at best, that the state-level unemployment rate impacts educational attainment. The coefficient on the local unemployment rate variable was typically small and routinely statistically insignificant. The unemployment rate had the strongest impact on high school graduation and college entrance and there was never an impact on college completion rates.

Some authors have found a strong role for local labor markets as determinants of educational attainment, but only for certain subsamples. Kane (1994) uses data from the School Enrollment Supplements to the October Current Population survey to analyze the time series pattern of college enrollment for black youths from 1973 to 1988. Kane examines data from this period because college enrollment among blacks declined sharply in 1980-84 but recovered after 1985. Kane found that the decline in the early 1980s was explained by an increase in the direct costs of college and the recovery was attributed to an increase in parental educational attainment of black youths. Kane found that the state unemployment rate had no effect on black or white college entrance rates, but the average weekly wage in manufacturing had a statistically significant negative impact on college entrance rates for both groups.

Black and Sufi (2002) examined a similar question to that passed by Kane by with more recent data. They used data from the 1968-1998 March CPS to explore the differences in black/white college enrollment rates. Black and Sufi found that college enrollment of whites are sensitive to the race-specific state-level unemployment rate, state tuition levels, and the return to education, but enrollment rates of black students are unaffected by these factors. Looking at the results for whites and blacks more closely, Black and Sufi found that whites from lower socioeconomic groups were much more responsive to state labor market conditions and tuition costs. In contrast, the authors found that blacks from all socioeconomic backgrounds were not responsive to state labor market conditions.

The variance in results in the four studies mentioned above could be due to many factors, but, one common thread through these four studies is that all measure local labor market conditions at the state level. State-level aggregates may be poor measures of the labor market conditions that are important to youths. As a result, a number of authors have examined the link



between education attainment and labor market conditions using county-level labor data. For example, Rivkin (1995) used data from the High School and Beyond class of 1982 to examine the causes of the black/white differentials in high school graduation and college entrance rates. Rivkin found that higher county-level unemployment rate raised the probability of attending school for both high school students and high school graduates. In most models, Rivkin found that the school enrollment decision was much more sensitive to the county-level unemployment rate for black compared to whites.<sup>7</sup>

Rees and Mocan (1997) examined the link between local labor markets and high school dropout rates using a panel of data of school districts from New York state over the 1978-87 period. The authors found that a one percentage point increase in the county-level unemployment rate reduced the probability of dropping out of high school by 0.077 percentage points, which is about 2 percent of the sample mean high school dropout rate of 3.7 percent. Rees and Mocan found a much smaller impact of unemployment on Blacks and a much larger impact for Hispanics, compared to whites.

Our work is similar in scope and design to that of Black, McKinnish and Sanders (forthcoming) who used the coal boom and bust in Kentucky and Pennsylvania during the 1970s and 1980s as an identifying shock to local labor market. The demand for coal was increased considerably by the oil price shocks of the mid 1970s but fell sharply in the early 1980s as pollution rules encouraged the use of low sulfur coal from western states. Because coal seams follow specific geographic patterns, the coal boom and bust altered the local demand for labor. The authors demonstrate that the coal boom (bust) increase (decreased) the wages of low-skilled workers relative to high-skill workers in mining towns. Similarly, the authors found that high

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<sup>7</sup> Models are done for high school students and graduates separately by gender. Black female high school graduates are less sensitive than their white counterparts to unemployment rate.

school enrollment fell (increased) during the coal boom (bust). In this analysis, the measure of the local labor market is essentially at the county level.

In contrast to the variance in estimates across studies that measure the labor markets at the state level, the three studies that measure labor markets at the county level demonstrate a more consistent set of results. The disparity in results between studies that measure labor markets at the state and sub-state level is similar to a related literature that has examined the impact of local labor markets on the take up and exit from welfare. Hoynes (2000) notes when labor market conditions were measured at the state level, studies showed a weak relationship between the local labor market and welfare entry and exit. However, Hoynes found a much larger role for local labor markets in the welfare exit and take up decision when labor markets were measured at the county level.

Another result that runs through nearly all studies discussed above is that the impact of labor markets on educational attainment appears to be greatest for students from lower socioeconomic groups. The Kane's and Rivkin's studies find that black enrollment rates were more sensitive to labor market fluctuations than for whites. In contrast, Black and Sufi found that enrollment rates of whites were more sensitive. However, Black and Sufi did find that within white subsample, students with lower-educated parents were the most sensitive to labor market conditions.

### **III. The Rise of American Indian Casinos**

In this section, we briefly summarize the legal and legislative actions that allowed the introduction and the growth of casinos on Indian reservations. A longer narrative is available in Evans and Topoleski (2002) and excellent book-length treatments are available in Eisler (2001)

and Mason (2000).

Federally-recognized American Indian tribes are sovereign nations and a series of Federal laws define what and how state and local laws apply on reservation land. In general, state and local criminal laws are enforceable on reservation land but not civil statutes. This distinction was created because many tribes had no formal police presence and the Federal government wanted the ability for state and local police to enter reservations in order to pursue criminal suspects.

In the late 1970s, a small number of Indian reservations opened large-scale bingo parlors as a way to support tribal government operations. A bingo operation run by the Seminoles of Florida offered larger prizes and operated at hours that conflicted with state law. The State of Florida sought to restrict this operation but the district court determined that since bingo was legal within the state, the state restrictions on bingo were civil in nature and therefore, the state could not restrict the size of the Seminole operation.<sup>8</sup> The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the district court's decision in 1981.<sup>9</sup>

Soon after this decision, a similar set of suits were brought against the Cabazon Indians of California for running a card room, which were legal in California, but subject to local ordinances. Because the card room was operated in a county that prohibited them, the county and state argued the tribe was in violation of local ordinances. The case was eventually decided in the U.S. Supreme Court (*California v. Cabazon and Morongo Bands of Mission Indians*)<sup>10</sup> and citing reasoning similar to that in the *Seminole* case, the court decided that while federal law gives city, county, and state authorities power to enforce criminal law on Indian trust land, these laws were not intended to make tribes subject to a state's civil code. Therefore, if states allow a

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<sup>8</sup> *Seminole Tribe of Florida v. Butterworth* 491 F.Supp. 1015 (1980).

<sup>9</sup> *Seminole Tribe of Florida v. Butterfield*, 658 F.2d 310 (1981)

<sup>10</sup> 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

particular form of gaming within the state, it has no ability to regulate similar gaming operations on tribal land. In the case of California, bingo and card games were legal, so the court decided the laws concerning these activities were civil rather than criminal in nature.

Because the federal government at the time of the *Cabazon* decision did not prohibit gaming on Indian reservations and many states allowed (but heavily regulated) various forms of gambling, some tribes interpreted the *Cabazon* decision as allowing gambling and opened casinos shortly after the decision. State officials and gaming interests from Nevada and New Jersey began to lobby Congress to limit tribally-owned gaming operations. Not surprisingly, Indian tribes did not want any federal intervention, believing that the lack of any federal laws restricting gaming on reservations and the *Cabazon* decision gave them greatest possible ability to run casinos.

In response to the uncertainty generated by the *Cabazon* decision, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA)<sup>11</sup> was quickly passed in 1988. The act established three classes of gaming and allowed gaming operations only on federally-recognized reservation land and under certain conditions. Class I gaming is ceremonial games or games with small payouts. Class II gaming is bingo and is essentially unregulated by the states. Class III gaming is Las Vegas-style and is allowed on reservations in any state that allows these types of games, whether for charity or for-profit purposes. However, in order to obtain a Class III license, tribes must enter into a ‘compact’ with state governments that specifies such factors as the size of the operation, the types of games, etc. States cannot tax the profits of Indian casinos but in some states, tribes have agreed to pay a fixed percent of profits in return for special considerations from the state.<sup>12</sup> For example, in Connecticut, the Pequot and Mohegan tribes return profits on slot machines to the

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<sup>11</sup> 25 U.S.C. 2702(1).

<sup>12</sup> Arizona, California, Connecticut, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, and Wisconsin collect payment from gaming tribes. Source: National Conference of state Legislatures.

state and in exchange, the state has agreed to not grant any more gaming licenses.<sup>13</sup>

Since passage of the IGRA, casino operations have exploded. Today, there are over 400 casinos have been opened in the lower 48 states, about 240 of which have Las Vegas-style games. Today, roughly half of all Indians who belong to tribes are enrolled in tribes that operate a casino (Evans and Topoleski, 2002). Net revenues in Indian casinos (gaming handle minus game payouts) have grown from under \$100 million in the mid 1980s, to \$5 billion dollars in 1995, to \$16 billion dollars in 2003.<sup>14</sup> According to Evans and Topoleski (2002) four or more years after casinos opened, employment increased by 26 percent and the fraction of working adults who were poor was reduced by 14 percent. The authors also demonstrate that four or more years after a casino has opened in a county, total jobs per adult increased by 2 percent, but personal bankruptcies and property crimes (especially larceny and auto thefts) increase by about 10 percent.

Tribes in some states such as Rhode Island and South Carolina are unable to open casinos because their reservations are in states that have prohibitions on casino-style gaming. Other tribes have decided to not pursue gaming as an economic strategy even though other tribes in the state have opened operations. The most notable example is the Navajo Nation, which has twice rejected gaming in nationwide referendums. The Navajo Nation is the largest reservation (by square miles), one of the largest in enrollment, and the single largest in enrollment among tribes with reservation land. Oklahoma has the most Indians that belong to tribal nations but the state only allows Class II gaming, so in the state, there are lots of bingo parlors but no Las Vegas-style casinos. In recent years, however, electronic machines similar to slots have been installed in Oklahoma parlors offering bingo-type games.

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<sup>13</sup> For an excellent account of politics surrounding the deal struck between the state and the Pequots, see Eisler (2001).

<sup>14</sup> Source: National Indian Gaming Commission at <http://www.nigc.gov/nigc/tribes/revenue-03-95.jsp>.

## **IV. Data**

This study uses the restricted-use versions of the decennial census long-form samples of 1990 and 2000. The census long-form is sent to one-sixth of households in the U.S. and the survey instrument asks detailed questions about the housing unit, plus demographic, social and economic characteristics of each household member. Household data include the type of housing unit, number of rooms, rent or value of property, outstanding mortgage value, typical utility payments, plus whether the house has complete plumbing, a complete kitchen, and a telephone. Data at the person-level include the relationship to the head of housing unit, sex, race, age, marital status, Hispanic origin, citizenship, education, military service, work experience, and income.

Public-use versions of the long-form responses are available in aggregate form at various levels of geography as part of the Summary File (SF) data system. Although the SF system does report aggregate data for people living on federally-recognized Indian reservations, not all variable averages are reported. More importantly, aggregate data is not reported for population subgroups, preventing us from using this data to examine heterogeneity in the impacts of casinos across groups. For example, half of all people living on reservations are non-Indians. Since we suspect the benefits of a new casino might differ for Indians compared to non-Indians, SF data may miss this heterogeneity in treatment.

Likewise, individual-level data from the long-form is available in samples that represent one and five percent of the population as part of the Public Use Micro Sample (PUMS). The lowest level of aggregation identified on PUMS data is at the Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) level, that are county-based aggregates of 100,000 people. Larger counties are broken

up into multiple PUMAs and smaller counties are aggregated together into PUMAs. Given the small size of most Indian reservations, data at the PUMA level is unable to successfully identify reservation residents.

In contrast, our restricted-use versions of the census long-form data contain all respondents to the survey, roughly 16 percent of the US population. More importantly, our restricted-use data contains detailed geographic information that includes census block (or block part), state, county, congressional district, and MSA/CMSA definitions, plus the data indicates whether a household is located on a particular Indian reservation.

Our analysis sample includes all people from the 1990 and 2000 Census who live on federally-recognized reservations in the lower 48 states.<sup>15</sup> There are a small number of tribes that are recognized by state governments but do not have federally-recognized reservations. Because the IGRA only applies to federally-recognized tribes, these tribes are not allowed to open a casino so we delete these tribes from our sample. Although the state of Oklahoma has the most Indians who belong to tribes, there is only one reservation in the state. Most data for Oklahoma is reported instead for statistical areas which are broad geographic areas that contain mostly non-Indians, so we delete data for Oklahoma as well. A small number of tribes such as the Mohegans from Connecticut did not exist in 1990 but have been recognized since. We delete any tribe that only has one year of census data. Finally, we deleted a few tribes that report small numbers of people who live within the reservation area but have no Indians on tribal land. In the 2000 Census, there are roughly 300 Indian tribes in the lower 48 states with federally-recognized reservation land. Our final sample consists of 265 of these tribes, of which, 142 had opened a Las Vegas-style casino by the end of 1998. Many of these tribes have opened more than one

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<sup>15</sup> There are over 250 tribes in Alaska. Because none of them has a gaming operation, we delete data from Alaska in our analysis.

casino. We should also note one caveat about the long-form data. Not all tribal members must live on the reservation. Subsequently, members may be living off reservation and receiving benefits from a casino operation. Subsequently, our model identifies the impact of casinos that remain on the reservation. As we demonstrate below, this is the vast majority of original reservation residents.

Starting with the 2000 Census, respondents were allowed to identify multiple races in both the long- and short-form surveys. Nationwide, this increased considerably the fraction of people who identified at least some American Indian heritage. In 1990, 1,959,234 people (or 0.79 percent of total population) reported American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) as their race. In the 2000 Census, 2,475,956 people (or 0.88 percent of total population) reported AI/AN solely while another 1,643,345 people (or 0.58 percent of total population) reported this race in combination with one or more other races.<sup>16</sup> The use of multiple race codes was not as prevalent on Indian reservations, even though in the 1990 Census, roughly half of reservation residents were non-Indians. In our sample, only 3 percent of people on reservations reported a multiple race code. In the 2000 Census, we code as Indian any person who reported an Indian race, either singly or in combination with other race codes.<sup>17</sup>

In the pooled 1990 and 2000 census data sets, there are 470,050 individuals from all age ranges living on the reservations used in this analysis. Given the focus of this research, we will not use all observations, but instead, focus on two distinct subsamples. First, we want to document the rise in economic opportunities likely to be faced by young adults. Therefore, we initially examine the impact of casinos on the economic opportunities for reservation members who were 25 to 40 years of age at the time of the census. These adults provide some indication

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<sup>16</sup> Source: 1990 Summary Tape File1- 100 percent data, Census 2000 Summary File1- 100 percent data.

<sup>17</sup> Our results are not sensitive to this specification. We obtain very similar results if we define those with multiple race codes and at least one race as Indian as non-Indian.



to younger workers about the likely impact of casinos on their potential labor market experiences. In our sample, there are 103,964 individuals in this age group. Next, we examine whether the introduction of a casino altered educational attainment. For these models, we will focus our attention on samples of young adults who are high school (15-18) and college aged (20-24).

Table 1 describes the composition of the reservation population aged 25 to 40 by race, year, reservation type, and education level. Education is classified in three categories: less than a high school degree, a high school degree, and any college education. The Indian population on reservations increased at similar rates (about 23 or 24 percent) in both reservations with and without gaming. The non-Indian population increased on casino reservations by 5.7 percent but decreased in reservations without a casino by 6.2 percent. Looking at the composition of the population by education level, we find that the average educational attainment of an adult on an Indian reservation is substantially lower than the U.S. population as a whole. About 22 percent of the reservation population did not have a high school degree and only 43 percent of the population has any college education. The fraction of females with any college education is 47 percent, which is 7 percentage points higher than the corresponding number for males. Three-quarters of the population aged 25 to 40 were participating in the labor force, but only 87 percent of labor force participants had a job. About two-thirds of labor force participants and 72 percent of workers had a full-time and full-year job which is defined as working 40 weeks in the previous year for an average of 30 hours per week or more. More educated workers had higher employment rates and higher hourly wages. Among labor market participants, females had higher employment rate than males, but the full-time full-year employment rate was higher for males by 8 to 13 percentage points, depending on the education group. Female workers earned

less than male workers and earnings differential was increasing with education level.<sup>18</sup>

In Table 2, we report sample statistics of economic variables for the population aged 25 to 40, by year and reservation type. The final two columns of the table indicate that for this age group, there is little change in employment variables among tribes without casinos between 1990 and 2000. There was a slight decline in the employment to population ratio, no change in the fraction employed, a four percentage point change increase in the fraction employed full time and a less than one percent increase in the real hourly wage among full-time/full-year workers. There was also little change in the employment to population ratio among the 25-40 year olds on reservations with casinos, but there is a 2.3 percentage point increase in the fraction employed, a 6 percentage point increase in the fraction working full-time and full-year and a 3.3 percent increase in real wages. In the final three rows of table 2, we report some descriptive statistics for our samples of younger workers whose educational attainment may be impacted by changing local labor markets. For all three outcomes, the growth in educational attainment is greater among tribes without casinos than those with casinos. For example, among those 20-24 years of age, those in a reservation without a casino had a five percentage point increase in the fraction attending any college, but the increase among those on reservations with a casino operation only increased by four percentage points.

These simple analyses are instructive but they may mask important heterogeneity across different demographic groups. In the next section, we outline an econometric model that will allow us to examine the impact of casinos on those aged 25-40 and we allow the impact to vary by race, gender and educational attainment. Likewise, when we examine the impact of casinos on educational attainment, we will consider how the impacts vary by race, gender and age.

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<sup>18</sup> Earnings are hourly wage of full-time and full-year workers in constant 2000 dollars. The earnings differential is \$1.39, \$3.55, and \$3.73 for less than high school, high school graduates, and college level education, respectively.

## V. Econometric Model

The *Cabazon* decision was issued in 1987 and the IGRA was passed in 1988. According to the law, tribes must first establish a compact with the state before it can open a casino. In most states, compact negotiations took some time so the majority of casinos opened during the 1990s. A total of 17 casinos in our sample opened prior to the passage of the IGRA. Some tribes opened casinos without a signed compact, but most had signed agreements with the state. After a compact is signed, the size of casino operations typically expands greatly. In their analysis of the social and economic impacts of Indian casinos, Evans and Topoleski (2002) show that the casinos' impact on most outcomes such as employment opportunities, crime, and bankruptcies, continued to grow through the first six years of operation. Subsequently, the 'treatment' effect of a casino does not end once a casino is opened. The effect of the casino builds over time. Given these results, our econometric analysis will compare the growth in outcomes for tribes that obtained a casino before 1999 and those that did not. We hold constant tribe specific characteristics and secular changes in outcomes common to all tribes, and therefore, our econometric framework is a basic difference-in-difference model, which can be described by the following equation:

$$(1) \quad Y_{ijt} = X_{ijt}\beta + \text{YEAR2000}_t * \text{CASINO}_j\alpha + v_j + u_t + \varepsilon_{ijt}$$

where  $y$  represents the outcome of interest for person  $i$  from tribe  $j$  in year  $t$ . The vector  $X$  includes demographic information about the individual, and  $v$  and  $u$  are tribe and year effects, respectively. The key covariate is the interaction term  $\text{YEAR2000}_t * \text{CASINO}_j$ , where

YEAR2000 equals 1 for observation from the 2000 census and CASINO<sub>j</sub> equals 1 if the person belongs to a tribe that opened a casino by 1998.<sup>19</sup> The parameter ‘ $\alpha$ ’ measures the growth in outcomes between the two census years attributable to a casino operation. Because individuals on a reservation in a particular year can be affected by common events, we allow the errors  $\varepsilon_{ijt}$  within a tribe/year group to be correlated and estimate the variance/covariance using a procedure suggested by Liang and Zeger (1986). Individual sample weights are used in all econometric models. Although many of the outcomes are dichotomous, we estimate all equations as linear probability models. We get very similar results when we utilize logistic regression models (Kim, 2005).

The difference-in-difference model uses the time path in outcomes for tribes that never open casinos as an estimate of the secular trend in outcomes that would have occurred in the absence of casinos. The model will not provide a consistent estimate if the treatment is more likely to occur in tribes with different trends in outcomes. For example, the model will overstate the employment gains of a casino if reservations with faster-than average job growth were more likely to open casinos. Likewise, the model will understate the treatment effect if tribes that anticipated slower than average growth were more likely to move towards casino-style gaming. The available evidence indicates that neither the levels nor trends in economic outcomes predict which tribes opened casino style gaming. Evans and Topoleski (2002) estimate probit models where the outcomes of interest are whether a tribe will open a casino by 1995 or 2000 and the covariates are levels and trends of economic variables measured prior to passage of the IGRA. In their analysis, economic variables such as tribe-specific measures of the employment to population ratio, the fraction of tribal members working but poor, changes in the variables over

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<sup>19</sup> Class III casinos are much more profitable than Class II bingos so we only define the casino indicator to equal 1 if the tribe has either slot machines or table games. We should also note that although there are currently about 240 Vegas-style casinos on reservations, by 1998 there were a lot fewer.

the 1983 through 1989 period, and log county-level real wage and per capita income, were not statistically significant determinants for whether the tribe opened a casino by either 1995 or 2000. The only statistically significant covariates in the probit models are measures of the population in the area near the reservation, which means that tribes in more populated areas were more likely to open a casino.

## **VI Results**

### *A. Changes in Labor Market Outcomes*

In this section, we demonstrate how gaming operations have altered the labor market outcomes of reservation residents. Since the focus of this paper is how local conditions alter the demand for education among young adults, we focus on a sample of workers who young adults might reasonably expect to use as a gauge for the local labor market conditions. As a result, we estimate models similar to those in equation (1) for residents aged 25-40. We focus on four labor market outcomes: labor force participation, employment and full-time/full-year employment (for those in the labor market) and labor earnings (among those employed full-time and full-year). To examine the heterogeneity in the treatment effect across different types of residents, we allow the impact of casinos to vary across race, gender, and education.

Linear probability estimates of the impact of casinos on the labor market outcomes for adults 25-40 are presented in Table 3. Other covariates in the model include tribe fixed effect, a year effect, a complete set of age dummy variables, a complete set of education dummies, an indicator for residents who are Indians, an indicator for females, plus separate year effects for each education group. In Table 3, we only report the coefficients on the treatment effects that vary by education and race status. The rise of casino gaming has had little impact on labor force

participation for Indian and non-Indian men at all education levels. The coefficients are small and statistically insignificant.<sup>20</sup> In contrast, the labor force participation rate increased by 6 percentage points for Indian women with and without a high school degree and by 3.4 percentage points for those with greater than a high school degree. These final set of results are all statistically significant.

The introduction of casino gaming is estimated to increase the employment rate among Indians in the labor force, especially those with low education levels. For Indian men, casinos increased the employment rate by 5.7 percentage points among those with less than a high school degree and by 6.7 percentage points for high school graduates, and both of these results are statistically significant. There is a small positive and statistically insignificant increase in employment for Indian men with more than a high school degree. For Indian women, employment increases for all education levels and the impact declines monotonically as education rises. The introduction of casinos is estimated to increase employment by 6.9, 4.0, and 2.1 percentage points for high school dropouts, high school graduates, and college educated, respectively. The first two estimates are statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level, while the final result has a p-value of about 0.09. Among non-Indians, the only statistically precise coefficient in the employment equation is for males with less than a high school degree where the opening a casino is estimated to increase employment by 8.2 percentage points. All other coefficients for non-Indians in the employment equations are statistically insignificant and modest or small in magnitude.

Even though the employment rate increases for low-educated Indians (high school dropouts), there is no corresponding increase in full-time/full-year employment for this group.

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<sup>20</sup> Throughout the rest of the paper, when we refer to statistically significant or insignificant results, we are referring to the results of two-tailed tests using a 95 percent critical value.

In contrast, casinos are estimated to increase full-time/full-year employment by 4.4 percentage points among Indian men with a high school degree. There is however a much larger increase in full-time/full-year employment among Indian women but the size of the coefficient is positively correlated with education. Casinos are estimated to increase full-time/full-year employment rates among Indian females with a high school degree or more by a statistically significant 7 to 8 percentage points. Among non-Indian men and women, although casinos increased full-time/full-year employment rates by modest amounts for the lowest-skill groups, none of these results are statistically significant.

In the final three columns of Table 3, we report estimates for models where the outcome is the average hourly wage for full time/full year workers. Among Indian males, the opening of a casino generates hourly wages that are \$1.78 higher for the least educated, \$1.68 higher for those with a high school degree, and \$1.38 higher for those with the most education, and all three of these results are statistically significant. The estimated impact of casinos on the hourly wages for Indian women is very different. The estimated treatment effect for Indian women with a high school degree is \$1.22 and almost \$1.00 for the highest educated group and both of these results are statistically significant. In contrast, we estimate that casinos only increased wages by a statistically insignificant \$0.51/hour for Indian women with less than a high school degree. We estimate statistically insignificant wage changes induced by the opening a casino for non-Indians from all gender/education subsamples.

We note that in the labor force participation, employment, and hourly wage regressions, the estimated impacts of opening a casino are uniformly larger for Indians than for non-Indians. Given the large standard errors on the results for non-Indians, in most cases, we cannot reject the null hypothesis that the coefficients are the same.

Finally, we look at whether the adoption of casino gaming changed the industrial composition of employment. In Table 4, we report the results of a series of linear probability models where the dependent variable in each row is an indicator that equals 1 if a respondent is employed in a particular industry group. The sample in each case contains respondents, aged 25 to 40, who were in the labor force. Each table element represents the coefficient on the casino treatment effect from a different regression and results from different sub-samples of the population are reported in different columns.

In all sub-samples except non-Indians, there is a large increase in the probability people in the labor market are employed in the arts, recreation, etc., industry, which is the broad industry category that would include gaming casinos. Among Indians, employment in this industry increased by 7.4 percentage points, with similar increases among Indian males and females. Indians experienced a one percentage point increase in employment in other services, a half percentage point increase in professional industries, but a 1.5 percentage point drop in employment in construction and a 3.5 percentage point drop in manufacturing. There was no statistically significant coefficient in any regression for the non-Indian sub-sample except construction. Non-Indian employment in construction increases by 1.2 percentage points.

The nature of economic changes brought by casino operation can be summarized as follows. The rise of casino gaming on reservations increased labor force participation rates, employment, full-time/full-year employment, and wages of full-time/full-year workers. The benefits were however concentrated in a few demographic groups. Labor force participation rates increased only for Indian women and among this group, the results were largest for low-educated Indian women. The change in employment was greatest for Indians compared to non-Indians and among Indians and non-Indians, the largest changes in employment were



concentrated among low-skilled workers. Among those in the labor market, the probability of having a full-time/full-year job increased for Indian males and females. Among Indian males, the effect was larger for low-skilled workers, but among Indian females, the impact was largest among the highest skilled. Among full-time/full-year workers, wages increased for all groups of Indian males and females, but the largest absolute change (and hence an even greater percentage change) was for low-skilled workers.

#### *B. Changes in Educational Attainment*

The results in Table 3 indicate that the movement to casino gaming by tribes increased the labor market opportunities for Indian men and women, especially those with low levels of education. Because employment and wages of low-skilled workers have increased relative to higher-skill workers, the expected returns to education have fallen. Likewise, the opportunity costs of education have increased with the increasing returns to low-skill work. Subsequently, we suspect that the movement towards casino gaming may have also dampened the demand for formal education among young adults. In this section, we test this explicitly by using a variety of samples and measures of education.

First, we look at the high school enrollment rate of 15 to 18 year-olds. In this sample, we define students as enrolled if they are formally going to class or if they are a high school graduate. We estimate a model similar to those in Table 3 but in this case, we allow the treatment effect to vary by age and race. We estimate this as a linear probability model and the results are presented in Table 5. In these models, we allow for separate year effects for each age/race group.

Indians aged 17 to 18 show a statistically significant decline in high school enrollment on

reservations with casino gaming. The high school enrollment rate is lower by 3.6 percentage points for 17 year-old Indians and by 6.6 percentage points for 18 year-old Indians on casino reservations. The drop in enrollment is larger for Indian girls compared to Indian boys. Our results show that among reservations with casinos, school enrollment rates for 17 and 18 year-old Indian girls are 5.1 and 8.8 percentage points lower, respectively, than similarly defined Indians on reservations without gaming. Both of these results are statistically significant. Among 17 year-old Indian boys, gaming is estimated to have reduced enrollment by a statistically insignificant two percentage points, but among 18 year-olds, the coefficient is a statistically significant and negative 4.8 percentage points. The larger effects of casinos on the enrollment rates for girls could be due to higher fertility or marriage rates induced by the casino. We investigated this issue using a sample of 17 and 18 year-old female Indians. We can easily construct whether a respondent is married but we had to merge observations within households and families to identify whether a teen is a mother. In these models, we found that the casino treatment effects had small and statistically insignificant effects on both outcomes.

The results in Table 5 indicate that the impact of casinos on high school enrollment is very different for non-Indians. Among 15 and 16 year-old non-Indian boys and girls, we estimate that casinos generate statistically insignificant drops in enrollment of 1.4 to 2.2 percentage points. We estimate positive but statistically insignificant treatment effect for 17-year-old non-Indians. Among 18 year old non-Indian boys, we find that their high school enrollment rate is higher than the enrollment rate of similarly defined non-Indians without a casino by 6.6 percentage points and it is statistically significant.

Next, we look at the change in educational attainment of the population aged 25 to 40 on the reservations. Although casinos should mostly impact the educational decisions of younger

adults, we begin by start looking at a broader range of ages and narrow our sample down to high school and college ages later. Initially, we include people aged 20 to 40. The older half of this age group can be thought of as a specification check in that the impact of casinos should have little impact on these people. We use two outcomes, whether the individual graduated high school or had some college education. In each model, we include a tribe fixed effects, an indicator for race, plus dummy variables for four age groups (aged 20 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, and 35 to 40). We allow the year effects to vary by age group and race and we estimate separate models for males and females. The results from these models are reported in Table 6.

The results in Table 6 show that between 1990 and 2000, young adult Indians on reservations had large declines in high school graduation rates. For male Indians, high school graduation rate drops by 9.6 percentage points for 20-24 age group and by 4.0 percentage points for 25-29 age group. The impact on young female Indians was even larger. High school graduation declines by 11.5 percentage points for 20-24 group and by 9.3 percentage points for 25-29 group. Impacts are getting weaker by aging. This is clear evidence that favorable labor market conditions lead Indians to drop out of high school. For non-Indians, females in 25-29 group show a statistically significant drop in high school graduation rate by 5.7 percentage points. This might be related to the increase of employment of arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services sector which includes casino industry. The employment of non-Indian females in this sector increased by 2.0 percentage points and it is generally low-skilled work. No other non-Indian group shows a statistically significant change in high school graduation rate.

In the results for any college education by age groups, results show that gaming operation and economic changes entice Indians from starting college. Among Indians aged 20-24, casinos

are associated with statistically significant drops in college entrance of 5.3 and 7.8 percentage points, for males and females respectively. Among Indian females aged 25-29, this number falls to a statistically significant 6.4 percentage points. We do find a statistically significant drop in college entrance for Indian males aged 30-34, but small and statistically insignificant impacts for females aged 30-40 and males aged 35-50. There are no statistically significant impacts of casinos on the college entrance rates for non-Indians in any age group for either males or females. As we noted above in the introduction, these results are made more interesting by the fact that casino gaming tribes generously support college education for tribal members. Despite this financial support, labor market incentives appear to be a much stronger draw than tuition cost subsidies from the tribe.

### *C. Controlling for Migration*

The majority of reservation residents stay on their reservation after high school, but some may leave the reservation to find another job or to attend college. Since the census is a household-based survey, family members who are away at school would not be included in the sample. Our results may therefore understate the demand for higher education on casino reservations if graduates from these tribes are disproportionately likely to attend college off the reservation. In this section, we exploit the migration data in the census long-form data to identify individuals who have either recently joined or left the reservation and to examine whether these migration patterns impact our basic results.

The census long-form questionnaire asks all respondents greater than five years of age where they lived 5 years ago and respondents provide the zip code of their previous residence. However in the restricted-use versions of the data we are using, the residence five years ago has

been recoded into a 'place code' which are typically areas larger than reservations and hence, include non-reservation land. Therefore, we can only identify whether a respondent living off a reservation at census time was living on or near a reservation five years ago. This is especially problematic if we want to include non-Indians in our data set. Half of all reservation residents are Indians but among those who live within 10 mile of a reservation, we calculate that only 1 to 2 percent of people are Indians. Subsequently, if we add back to our sample all people who lived on or near a reservation five years ago, we have a large number of Non-Indians (mostly white respondents) who probably did not live on but rather near a reservation. In contrast, Indians living on a reservation outnumber Indians living near a reservation so adding back Indians who lived on or near a reservation five years ago will most likely not add back too many who lived off a reservation five years ago.

There is one final concern about the migration codes. Some place codes include areas with multiple reservations. In these situations, we randomly assign a person to a reservation using the census-year Indian populations to determine the probability of placement into a reservation.

With the census migration data, we generate three separate samples of Indians aged 20 to 29.<sup>21</sup> First, we identify people who live on the reservation both at census time and five years prior to the census. Second, we identify people who did not live on the reservation five years prior to the census but live on the reservation at census time. Third, we can identify people that lived on a reservation five years prior to a census but lived off the reservation at census time. The first two groups when combined are the Indians who live on the reservation at the time of the census, which is the population we used in the models reported in Table 6.

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<sup>21</sup> We focus on the 20-29 year age groups since these were the subsamples identified in Table 6 that were most impacted by the presence of casinos on reservations.

Counts of Indians by sample type, year, casino status, and education level are reported in Table 7. First, notice that of those people living on the reservations five years ago (Groups 1 and 3), the fraction that moved off the reservation by the time of the census increased between 1990 and 2000, and the increase was larger among tribes with a casino. This fraction increased from 24 to 26 percent between the two census years on reservations without a casino and from 25 to 34 percent on reservations with a casino. Second, of those living on a reservation at the time of the census (Groups 1 and 2), the fraction that moved to the reservation within the past five years grew between 1990 and 2000 and the growth was larger among reservations with a casino. In 1990 on reservations without a casino, 8 percent of the population moved there in the past five years and this number increased to 12 percent in 2000. The numbers for reservations with casinos were 11 percent in 1990 and 15 percent in 2000. So it appears that among Indians aged 20-29, both out- and in-migration increased on Indian reservations with casinos relative to non-casino reservations over the 1990 to 2000 period. Notice also that the education level of incoming and out-migrants is higher than those who were on the reservation in both time periods. In 2000, 78.6 percent of out-migration and 72.9 percent of incoming migrants were high school graduates on the gaming reservations, while only 67 percent of group 1 Indians had high school degree. Therefore, the exclusion of out-migrants (e.g., the samples in Table 6) should lead us to overstate the negative impact of casinos on educational attainment because those who have left the reservation with a casino tended to have higher levels of education.

Using data for Indians aged 20-29, we estimate linear probability models for the high school completion and college entrance outcomes for three different subsamples. First, we examine the impacts for Indians living on reservations at the time of the census. This sample is constructed by using data from Groups 1 and 2 from Table 7 and the sample is similar to the one

used in Table 6 except that now we delete data for non-Indians. The second group includes all people who lived on the reservation five years before the census, regardless of where they live now (Groups 1 and 3). This sample does not include the new migrants to the reservation but does include people who have emigrated to other parts of the country. Finally, we look at those who lived on the reservation five years prior to the census and at the time of the census (Group 1 only). We estimate separate models for males and females, and within each model, we estimate separate treatment effects for those age 20-24 and 25-29.

The results from these models are reported in Table 8. The first two columns report results for those on reservations at the time of the census. These results are similar in magnitude to those in Table 6. In the next column, we consider results for those who were on the reservation five years prior to the census but live elsewhere at the time of the census. In this new sample, casinos generate statistically significant reductions in high school completion rates for males aged 20-25 and females in both age groups. Notice that in these samples, the impact of casinos on high school graduation rates is about the same for males but the estimate for female Indians aged 20-25 is about 3.5 percentage points lower than the comparable estimate for Groups 1 and 2 combined, and the estimate for women aged 25-29 is now half the previous estimate. We find that casinos are associated with statistically significant reduction college entrance rates for males and females aged 20-25 but there are small and statistically insignificant impacts for those aged 25-29. These results indicate that those who left the reservation have higher educational levels than those who stayed and NOT considering this group will tend to overstate the impact of casinos on education. These results suggest that some of the younger people not on the reservation at the time of the census may be attending college, and that possibly some of the older people used the benefits of a higher education to exit reservation life.

The results do however indicate that there is a large and pronounced negative impact of casinos on the educational attainment of those who stayed on reservations. In the final two columns of Table 8, we look at the impact of casinos on those who were on reservations five years before the census and those at census time (Group 1). Note here that the numbers are very similar to the estimates for Groups 1 and 2 which is no surprise given the small fraction of people in group 2. Among those in Group 1, casinos are estimated to reduce high school graduation rates by over 7 percentage points for Indian males 20-25 and about 10 percentage points for female Indians in both age groups. These results are statistically significant. Likewise, casinos are estimated to reduce college entrance by 6 and 3 percentage points for Indian males aged 20-25 and 25-29 respectively, and by about 10 percentage points for Indian women in both age groups. Again, these results are statistically significant.

## **VII. Conclusion**

In 1998, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act was passed with the stated goal of enhancing tribal self sufficiency. Our estimates and those of others suggest that to some degree, the IGRA has been successful. The opening of a casino is estimated to increase the fraction of Indians on reservations with a job and to increase their hourly wage rate. These benefits are largest for those with the lowest levels of education. The results in this paper suggest that the greater availability of higher-paying, low skill jobs may have had some unintended negative consequences. We estimate that increased availability of jobs for low skilled workers is associated with sharply lower levels of high school enrollment, high school completion, and college entrance.

In contrast to the conflicting results found in the literature when one measures labor



markets at the state level, our results are in line with recent papers that demonstrate pronounced behavioral responses to labor market conditions when the local market is defined at a much lower level of aggregation. Our methodology and findings are closest to the work of Black, McKinnish, and Sanders (forthcoming) that used the coal boom and bust in Kentucky and Pennsylvania to demonstrate that educational attainment of young adults is counter cyclic. In their paper as well as the results here, the primary beneficiaries of new job opportunities were those with low levels of education, which not only reduced the expected returns to future education but increased the opportunity cost of obtaining more education.

Our results and the work of Black, McKinnish, and Sanders may also suggest caution when considering particular economic renewal policies. For example, some have advocated for aggressive federal jobs programs to generate employment opportunities in inner cities to deal with chronic unemployment, especially for young black males. If the new jobs generated by these programs are for low skill males, then these programs may also encourage students to exit education to take the jobs.

Finally, our results indicate that other factors may be much more important in the college enrollment decision than tuition levels. Many tribes have used casino profits to improve education opportunities for members, yet even with these benefits, high school attendance, high school graduation and college enrollment rates fell relative to the performance in non-casino reservations.

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**Table 1: Sample Composition, Individuals Aged 25-40 Living on Federally Recognized Reservations, 1990 and 2000 Census**

	Tribes with Casino		Tribes without Casino	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Indian	12,073	14,867	10,230	12,699
<H.S. DEGREE	3,594	3,812	3,263	3,347
H.S. DEGREE	4,444	5,660	3,724	4,701
>H.S. DEGREE	4,035	5,395	3,243	4,651
Non-Indian	19,775	20,896	6,925	6,499
<H.S. DEGREE	2,689	3,037	1,208	1,349
H.S. DEGREE	7,039	6,406	2,481	2,062
>H.S. DEGREE	10,047	11,453	3,236	3,088
Total	31,848	35,763	17,155	19,198

**Table 2: Sample Characteristics, Individuals Living on  
Federally Recognized Reservations,  
1990 and 2000 Census**

Variable	Sample	Tribes with a Casino		Tribes without a Casino	
		1990	2000	1990	2000
In labor force	25-40 year olds	.7763	.7719	.7228	.7044
Employed	25-40 year olds	.8685	.8918	.8355	.8399
Full time/full year worker	25-40 year olds	.6210	.6869	.5545	.5977
Hourly wage (in real 2000 \$)	25-40 year olds Full time/ Full Year workers	13.69	14.14	12.69	12.76
Currently in school	15-18 year olds	.8674	.8738	.8609	.8756
High school graduate	20-24 year olds	.7234	.7218	.6627	.7064
Any college	20-24 year olds	.3588	.3990	.2925	.3426

**Table 3: Linear Probability Estimates, Impact of Indian Casinos  
On Labor Market Outcomes, Reservation Residents Aged 25-40**

Race/Education	In labor force			Employed			Full-time/full-year worker			Hourly wage among full-time/full year workers		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
Indian												
< H.S. DEGREE	.0202 (.0174)	-.0227 (.0167)	.0664 (.0275)	.0597 (.0178)	.0568 (.0230)	.0689 (.0258)	.0317 (.0174)	.0319 (.0220)	.0194 (.0258)	1.19 (.78)	1.78 (.88)	.51 (.87)
H.S. DEGREE	.0321 (.0126)	-.0014 (.0139)	.0629 (.0189)	.0551 (.0129)	.0674 (.0175)	.0401 (.0141)	.0601 (.0163)	.0436 (.0212)	.0736 (.0205)	1.48 (.36)	1.68 (.39)	1.22 (.52)
> H.S. DEGREE	.0273 (.0124)	.0204 (.0151)	.0344 (.0158)	.0221 (.0106)	.0209 (.0157)	.0211 (.0125)	.0487 (.0125)	.0015 (.0173)	.0860 (.0152)	1.33 (.43)	1.38 (.49)	.98 (.40)
Non-Indian												
< H.S. DEGREE	-.0160 (.0261)	-.0189 (.0301)	-.0073 (.0419)	.0544 (.0154)	.0820 (.0191)	-.0091 (.0370)	.0333 (.0259)	.0272 (.0227)	.0456 (.0533)	.45 (.59)	.78 (.67)	.02 (.87)
H.S. DEGREE	.0091 (.0117)	.0219 (.0145)	-.0034 (.0171)	.0196 (.0132)	.0229 (.0142)	.0111 (.0170)	.0241 (.0203)	.0338 (.0224)	.0075 (.0362)	.47 (.37)	.55 (.49)	.36 (.37)
> H.S. DEGREE	.0041 (.0118)	.0044 (.0137)	.0028 (.0183)	.0046 (.0125)	.0000 (.0165)	.0097 (.0117)	-.0097 (.0132)	-.0004 (.0200)	-.0166 (.0215)	.19 (.73)	.93 (.63)	-.83 (1.07)
# of Individuals	103,923	50,771	53,152	78,117	41,888	36,229	78,117	41,888	36,229	45,382	25,473	19,909
R <sup>2</sup>	.1064	.0980	.0931	.1064	.1198	.0971	.1052	.1598	.0672	.1922	.1783	.1702

Numbers in parentheses are standard errors that allow for arbitrary correlation across observations in a tribe/year cell. Other covariates include tribe fixed effects, age, race and education fixed-effects, year effects that vary by education/race status, and where appropriate, a male dummy variable.

**Table 4: Linear Probability Estimates, Impact of Indian Casinos  
On Employment by Industry, Reservation Residents Aged 25-40**

Industry	All	Indians	Non-Indians	Indian Males	Indian Females
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining	-.0001 (.0038)	.0080 (.0056)	.0048 (.0085)	.0183 (.0098)	-.0025 (.0032)
Construction	-.0069 (.0087)	-.0142 (.0086)	.0120 (.0055)	-.0256 (.0143)	-.0052 (.0034)
Manufacturing	-.0177 (.0072)	-.0349 (.0089)	-.0019 (.0092)	-.0367 (.0097)	-.0297 (.0104)
Wholesale and retail trade	-.0098 (.0054)	-.0029 (.0066)	-.0123 (.0089)	-.0080 (.0069)	.0030 (.0086)
Transportation, warehousing, utilities, information, communication	.0043 (.0027)	.0037 (.0039)	.0028 (.0050)	-.0057 (.0052)	.0129 (.0048)
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental, leasing	-.0005 (.0027)	-.0040 (.0029)	.0026 (.0040)	-.0036 (.0029)	-.0029 (.0043)
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, waste management.	.0063 (.0042)	.0053 (.0027)	-.0032 (.0057)	.0059 (.0052)	.0044 (.0031)
Educational, health & social services	-.0031 (.0061)	.0007 (.0087)	-.0135 (.0082)	.0011 (.0069)	.0030 (.0133)
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, food services	.0393 (.0070)	.0741 (.0077)	.0118 (.0082)	.0778 (.0095)	.0682 (.0082)
Other services except public administration	.0089 (.0045)	.0108 (.0037)	.0121 (.0089)	.0093 (.0033)	.0129 (.0053)
Public administration	-.0043 (.0053)	-.0107 (.0079)	-.0001 (.0060)	.0135 (.0112)	-.0381 (.0097)
# of Individuals	78,079	34,366	43,713	17,806	16,560

Each cell is the coefficient on the casino\*Year2000 variable from a different regression. Numbers in parentheses are standard errors that allow for arbitrary correlation across observations in a tribe/year cell. Other covariates include tribe fixed effects, year effects, age effects, and where appropriate, sex and race effects.

**Table 5: Linear Probability Estimates, Impact of Indian Casinos  
On High School Enrollment, Reservation Residents Aged 15-18**

Race/Age	All	Male	Female
Indians			
15	-.0002 (.0110)	.0208 (.0138)	-.0206 (.0161)
16	-.0051 (.0137)	-.0032 (.0171)	-.0032 (.0208)
17	-.0361 (.0209)	-.0243 (.0210)	-.0509 (.0299)
18	-.0661 (.0204)	-.0476 (.0260)	-.0872 (.0259)
Non-Indians			
15	-.0190 (.0244)	-.0157 (.0264)	-.0222 (.0258)
16	-.0147 (.0126)	-.0159 (.0184)	-.0136 (.0176)
17	.0195 (.0281)	.0100 (.0284)	.0289 (.0362)
18	.0478 (.0358)	.0664 (.0355)	.0368 (.0481)
# of Individuals	33,315	17,078	16,237
R <sup>2</sup>	0.1101	0.1186	0.1173

Numbers in parentheses are standard errors that allow for arbitrary correlation across observations in a tribe/year cell. Other covariates include tribe fixed effects, age and race, and year effects that vary by age/race status.

**Table 6: Linear Probability Estimates, Impact of Indian Casinos  
On High School Graduation, Any College, Reservation Residents Aged 20-40**

Race/Age	High School Graduate		Any College	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Indian				
20-24	-.0955 (.0310)	-.1147 (.0202)	-.0530 (.0175)	-.0876 (.0196)
25-29	-.0396 (.0196)	-.0931 (.0194)	-.0277 (.0175)	-.0636 (.0185)
30-34	-.0252 (.0166)	.0085 (.0177)	-.0447 (.0156)	.0201 (.0189)
35-40	.0251 (.0189)	-.0177 (.0187)	.0144 (.0188)	.0028 (.0184)
Non-Indian				
20-24	-.0308 (.0264)	-.0338 (.0256)	.0339 (.0433)	.0207 (.0444)
25-29	-.0239 (.0371)	-.0572 (.0302)	-.0169 (.0533)	-.0653 (.0456)
30-34	-.0313 (.0326)	.0079 (.0332)	-.0736 (.0531)	.0401 (.0483)
35-40	-.0204 (.0261)	-.0404 (.0263)	-.0318 (.0350)	-.0475 (.0378)
# of Obs	64,656	67,391	64,656	67,391
R <sup>2</sup>	.0943	.0836	.0861	.0711

Numbers in parentheses are standard errors that allow for arbitrary correlation across observations in a tribe/year cell. Other covariates include tribe fixed effects, age group and race fixed-effects and year effects that vary by age group/race status.



**Table 7: Population Counts by Migration Status, Indians Aged 20-29**

Group	5 years before the Census	At the Census	Education	Tribes with a Casino		Tribes without a Casino	
				1990	2000	1990	2000
1	ON	ON	# of Obs.	7,144	7,776	6,247	6,813
			<HSD	35.2 %	33.0 %	36.2 %	27.7 %
			HSD	40.6 %	40.1 %	39.8 %	41.2 %
			>HSD	24.2 %	26.9 %	23.9 %	31.1 %
2	OFF	ON	# of Obs.	883	1,411	556	945
			<HSD	34.1 %	27.1 %	27.0 %	20.1 %
			HSD	33.5 %	35.2 %	36.3 %	35.1 %
			>HSD	32.4 %	37.7 %	36.7 %	44.8 %
3	ON	OFF	# of Obs.	2,403	4,064	1,967	2,399
			<HSD	23.2 %	21.4 %	24.8 %	19.8 %
			HSD	38.1 %	34.0 %	35.9 %	32.8 %
			>HSD	38.7 %	44.6 %	39.3 %	47.3 %
Total				10,430	13,251	8,770	10,157

**Table 8: Linear Probability Estimates, Impact of Casinos On High School Graduation, Any College, Indians Aged 20-29**

	People on reservations at the time of the Census		People on reservations five years before the Census		People on reservations five years before the Census AND at the time of the Census	
	Groups 1,2		Groups 1, 3		Group 1	
<i>High School</i>						
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
20-24	-.0697 (.0321)	-.1052 (.0166)	-.0715 (.0201)	-.0647 (.0168)	-.0739 (.0336)	-.1074 (.0178)
25-29	-.0156 (.0205)	-.0892 (.0143)	-.0085 (.0176)	-.0407 (.0174)	-.0132 (.0214)	-.0953 (.0148)
# of Obs.	15,382	16,361	18,760	20,019	13,606	14,345
R <sup>2</sup>	.0558	.0619	.0452	.0414	.0552	.0592
<i>College</i>						
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
20-24	-.0603 (.0153)	-.0969 (.0189)	-.0450 (.0149)	-.0504 (.0228)	-.0559 (.0162)	-.1002 (.0185)
25-29	-.0358 (.0145)	-.0759 (.0182)	-.0091 (.0166)	-.0178 (.0199)	-.0324 (.0156)	-.0804 (.0181)
# of Obs.	15,382	16,361	18,760	20,019	13,606	14,345
R <sup>2</sup>	.0456	.0573	.0462	.0485	.0425	.0570

Numbers in parentheses are standard errors that allow for arbitrary correlation across observations in a tribe/year cell. Other covariates include tribe fixed effects, age group and race fixed-effects and year effects that vary by age group/race status.